

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 FEA-02 AGR-20

CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-03 INR-11

INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20

CIEP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01

SP-03 OMB-01 SWF-02 AF-10 NEA-14 OIC-04 /251 R

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USDA/FAS:PMACKIE

EB/ITP:TGEWECKE

EUR/RPE:JMCCARTHY

EA/J:WPIEZ

ARA/ECP:CREYNOLDS

COMMERCE:DSCHLECTY (INFO)

EA/ANZ:HLANGE

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AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY WARSAW PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMCONSUL BELIZE
AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL MEETING ON MEAT

ROME PASS FODAG

REF: STATE 110296

1. REF A INDICATED U.S. INTEREST IN MULTILATERAL COOPERATIVE EFFORTS TO SOLVE EMERGING INTERNATIONAL MEAT TRADE PROBLEMS. SINCE THAT MESSAGE, STATE OF INTERNATIONAL LIVESTOCK AND MEAT ECONOMY HAS WORSENERED AND IMPORTING COUNTRIES HAVE TAKEN FURTHER TRADE RESTRICTIVE MEASURES (E.G., IMPORT QUOTAS ON CATTLE, BEEF AND VEAL BY CANADA).

2. AS RESULT INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT GLOBAL OUTLOOK, ESPECIALLY FOR CATTLE INDUSTRY, U.S. HAS INDICATED PRELIMINARY ACCEPTANCE OF AUSTRALIAN PROPOSAL (NOW CO-SPONSORED BY NEW ZEALAND) FOR AD HOC INTERGOVERNMENTAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MEETING ON MEAT IN SEPTEMBER. GOA DESCRIBES PURPOSE OF MEETING "TO REVIEW RECENT AND PROSPECTIVE DEVELOPMENTS IN WORLD MEAT MARKET AND CONSIDER POSSIBLE WAYS AND MEANS OF COOPERATING IN SEARCH FOR SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE".

3. AUSTRALIAN PROPOSAL ENVISAGES SENIOR OFFICIAL REPRESENTATION FROM: AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, EC

COMMISSION (ONE DELEGATE REPRESENTING ALL EC COUNTRIES), CANADA, JAPAN, AND THE U.S. AND ARGENTINA. AUSTRALIAN OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON STATE THAT, EXCEPT FOR JAPAN AND ARGENTINA, THESE COUNTRIES HAVE INDICATED PRELIMINARY ACCEPTANCE. GOA TAKES POSITION THAT REPRESENTATION MUST BE STRICTLY LIMITED IF WORTHWHILE PROGRESS IS TO BE MADE. U.S. AGREES ON THIS POINT BUT HAS INDICATED THAT WE FAVOR REPRESENTATION OF MEXICO AND CENTRAL AMERICA, (BY ONE DELEGATE IF POSSIBLE) SINCE ABOUT 25 PERCENT OF OUR FRESH AND FROZEN MEAT IMPORTS ORIGINATES IN THESE COUNTRIES AND BECAUSE OF THEIR INTEREST IN ACCESS TO EC MARKET, ARGENTINA IS PRESSING FOR WIDER LATIN AMERICAN REPRESENTATION, AND JAPAN HAS GIVEN LUKEWARM RESPONSE TO MULTILATERAL CONSULTATION CONCEPT-FAVORING CONTINUATION OF BILATERALS WITH AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.

4. CURRENT THINKING IS THAT MEETING WILL BE HELD LAST WEEK SEPTEMBER, VENUE UNDECIDED. AUSTRALIA HAS RESISTED GENEVA AS SITE, FEARING IT TOO "GATTISH" FOR EC WHICH IT WISHES TO TREAT WITH GREAT CARE. U.S. REMAINS FLEXIBLE AS TO ULTIMATE LOCATION AND TO CHAIRMANSHIP OF MEETING BY NEUTRAL PARTY (E.G., INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVANT). ALTHOUGH U.S. HAS CONSIDERED UTILIZING EXISTING INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR SUCH MEETING (INCLUDING OECD, BUT WITH A PREFERENCE FOR GATT), WE HAVE DECIDED GO ALONG WITH AUSTRALIAN APPROACH WHICH APPEARS TO BE GAINING ACCEPTANCE OF PRINCIPAL TRADING COUNTRIES.

5. U.S. STRATEGY NOT YET FULLY DEVELOPED, BUT PRINCIPAL U.S. OBJECTIVES IN MEETING INCLUDE IMPROVING UNDERSTANDING OF MAJOR TRADING COUNTRIES OF SHORT TERM OUTLOOK FOR WORLD MEAT AND LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY AND, IN PARTICULAR, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF EFFECT OF GOVERNMENT POLICIES ON THIS OUTLOOK. WE WOULD HOPE THAT PRINCIPAL RESULTS WOULD BE TO DISCOURAGE TRADE RESTRICTING ACTIONS AND TO ENCOURAGE GREATER RELIANCE ON MEASURES TO EXPAND CONSUMPTION. IT MAY ALSO BE APPROPRIATE TO DISCUSS LONGER TERM PROBLEMS, SUCH AS PERMANENTLY REDUCING IMPORT BARRIERS IN ORDER TO INCREASE PRODUCTION EFFICIENCY, ENCOURAGE CONSUMPTION AND FACILITATE ADJUSTMENT TO CHANGING SUPPLY/DEMAND CONDITIONS AND FACING THE BROAD POLICY ISSUES THAT MAY ARISE IN RELATION TO LIVESTOCK FEEDING AND MEAT CONSUMPTION IF WORLD GRAIN SHORTAGES PERSIST AND WORLD FOOD PROBLEMS GROW MORE SEVERE.

6. ALTHOUGH FURTHER INTERNATIONAL CONSULTATIONS ON LIVESTOCK AND MEAT MAY BE DESIRABLE SUBSEQUENT TO THE

SEPTEMBER MEETING, WE NOT PREPARED TO MAKE COMMITMENT AT THIS TIME. AUSTRALIA INTENDS TABLING PROPOSAL FOR INTERNATIONAL BODY ON MEAT (CORRESPONDING TO, SAY INTERNATIONAL WHEAT COUNCIL), FOR WHICH WE ARE NOT CONVINCED THERE IS A NEED.

7. ADDRESSEE POSTS MAY DRAW ON CONTENTS THIS MESSAGE IN RESPONDING TO INQUIRIES ABOUT U.S. POSITION ON SEPTEMBER MEETING. WE BELIEVE IT DESIRABLE TO LET AUSTRALIA CONTINUE TO PURSUE ITS INITIATIVE AND YOU SHOULD, AS APPROPRIATE, FOCUS YOUR DISCUSSIONS WITH HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ON THEIR VIEWS RE COUNTRIES TO BE REPRESENTED, AGENDA, SITE, AND CHAIRMANSHIP, AS WELL AS OBJECTIVES THAT MIGHT BE REACHED OR RECOMMENDATIONS THAT MIGHT BE MADE.

8. FOR BELGRADE. REQUEST YOUR VIEWS RE DESIRABILITY YUGOSLAV PARTICIPATION IN MEETING VIS-A-VIS NEED TO RESTRICT TO AS FEW COUNTRIES AS POSSIBLE AND AVAILABILITY OF GATT CHANNELS FOR BILATERAL YUGOSLAV CONSULTATION WITH EC.

9. FOR BUENOS AIRES. AUSTRALIANS REPORT THAT ARGENTINES RELUCTANT TO UNDERTAKE OFFICIALLY OR UNOFFICIALLY SPEAK FOR SOUTH AMERICAN REGION AT MEETING. AS APPROPRIATE YOU MAY SYMPATHIZE, BUT SUPPORT AUSTRALIAN POSITION IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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VIEW OF RISK EC MIGHT WITHDRAW FROM MEETING OR INSIST ON REPRESENTATION FROM EACH MEMBER STATE IF LIST OF PARTICIPANTS GROWS MUCH BEYOND THAT OF ORIGINAL AUSTRALIAN PROPOSAL.

10. FOR TOKYO. BOTH AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENTS HAVE ASKED THAT WE REGISTER OUR SUPPORT FOR CONSULTATIONS WITH GOJ AS COUNTERWEIGHT TO JAPANESE HESITANCY ABOUT TAKING PART. ACCORDINGLY, YOU ARE REQUESTED TO CONTACT APPROPRIATE LEVELS AT FOREIGN MINISTRY AND AT MIN AG TO NOTE U.S. ACCEPTANCE GOA INITIATIVE, OUR INTENTION TO PARTICIPATE CONSTRUCTIVELY IN ATMOSPHERE WE EXPECT TO BE FREE OF RECRIMINATION, AND OUR HOPE THAT JAPAN, AS MAJOR IMPORTER, WILL ATTEND.

11. ADDITIONAL INFO ON MEETING WILL BE PROVIDED AS DEVELOPMENTS OCCUR. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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